

**From:** [Purcell, Mark](#)  
**To:** [Atkins, Blake](#)  
**Cc:** [Shade, Kevin](#)  
**Subject:** RE: OEJTIA EJ Collaborative Action Plans - Quarterly Update Request  
**Date:** Monday, May 8, 2017 1:48:00 PM  
**Attachments:** [FOCUS AREA 3 - Purcell Edits - May 8 2017.docx](#)

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Blake,

I have provided edits and comments to the Focus Area 3 portion of the OEJTIA EJ Collaborative Action Plan for New Mexico for the program's consideration. See attached file.

Mark

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**From:** Atkins, Blake  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 27, 2017 8:00 AM  
**To:** Purcell, Mark <purcell.mark@epa.gov>  
**Subject:** FW: OEJTIA EJ Collaborative Action Plans - Quarterly Update Request

[Mark, please update the following as appropriate.](#)

### FOCUS AREA 3: COAL MINING, URANIUM AND COMMUNITIES CONCERNED WITH NUCLEAR SAFETY

Goal 3: Demonstrate progress on significant national environmental justice challenges  
Challenges: (1) Lead Disparities, (2) Drinking Water, (3) Air Quality, and (4) Hazardous Waste Sites  
Focus areas: 1. Work collaboratively with federal and state partners to identify, investigate and cleanup worst contaminated areas. 2. Enhance awareness on the superfund cleanup decision process and enhance transparency of regulators work and jurisdiction in the Grants Mining District.

### KEY ACTIVITIES LEAD COMMENTS / STATUS

Proposed

Activities

for the

Next Two

Years

1. Continue to make progress in the designated Superfund mining areas – while keeping the public informed on progress. 2. Implement outreach/education plan to increase awareness of baseline studies, processes, regulatory involvement, and the public's right to know groundwater quality testing and monitoring. 3. Work collaboratively with federal and state

partners in exchanging technical data and research, and in environmental 6SF 6SF 6SF Information regarding the Grants Mining District are posted at: <http://www2.epa.gov/grants-mining-district> In succession to the 2010 – 2015 Five-Year Plan for the Grants Mining District, the 2015 – 2020 Five-Year Plan for the Grants Mining District was finalized in June 2016 and is at <http://www2.epa.gov/grants-mining-district> The Final 2015 – 2020 Five Year Plan and the groundwater results in the Grants Mining District was presented and discussed at a series of meetings with the San Miguel community, with the Acoma Pueblo Leadership, and with members of the MASE, Nov 15-16, 2016 and with community of Grants, NM on Nov. 17, 2016. The EPA Superfund Division has been working collaboratively with federal and state partners to assess and address contamination and

clean up within the Grants Mining District., e.g., DOE, NRCE, EPA, USGS, NMED, NMSEO, NMMD (Recommendation from MASE member, Mr. Petuuche Gilbert). . 4. Collaborate with federal and state partners in performing groundwater quality assessment and groundwater modeling in assessing the San Andres Glorietta Aquifer and contamination movement (Recommendation from MASE member, Mr. Petuuche Gilbert). 5. Collaborate with federal and state partners in doing a comprehensive health study in regard to uranium mining and milling impacts in the Grants Mining District (Recommendation from MASE member, Mr. Petuuche Gilbert). 6. Use community input to develop realistic plans supported by affected communities to make progress in the designated Superfund mining areas – while keeping the public informed (Recommendation from MASE member, Candace Head-Dylla). 6SF 6SF 6SF/OEJTIA to eliminate, reduce or manage risks to human health and the environment within the Grants Mining District. These partners include: U.S. Dept of Energy – Office of Legacy Management; U.S. Dept of the Interior – Bureau of Land Management; the Pueblo of Acoma Environmental Department; the Pueblo of Laguna Environmental and Natural Resources Department; the NM Environmental Department; the NM Energy, Minerals, and Natural Resources Department – Mining and Minerals Division; and U.S.G.S. The specific aquifers were not looked at specifically at this time; instead identified the drainage basin – San Mateo Creek Basin. Under the Phase 1 Ground Water investigation three wells sampled at the request of MASE. Additional wells were sampled under Phase 2 Ground Water Investigation. In respect to health studies, the main recommendation of a previous health study (i.e., biometric study) in the Grants/Milan area and Laguna Pueblo was to reduce exposure to uranium in water and other sources. The EPA Superfund Division will continue to facilitate efforts to assess and address contamination that eliminate, reduce or manage risks to human health and the environment. Coordinate with partners to determine status of any health studies in the Grant Mining District. Phase 1 Groundwater Investigation monitoring results in the Homestake mining district was presented to the MASE on Nov 16, 2016, Grants, NM. MASE expressed concerns with the NMED background sampling locations. Acoma Pueblo officials expressed their concern with windblown contamination since they experience severe dust storms and asked for Air Quality Monitoring due to dust

7. Address the need to cleanup groundwater in our sparsely populated EJ Communities in Grants County. Laura Watchempino, MASE member 8. EPA's 2015-2020 Five-Year Plan for the Grants Mining District in New Mexico to Assess and Address Health and Environmental Impacts of Uranium Mining and Milling fails to address any health assessments. . Laura Watchempino, MASE member a. A comprehensive health assessment throughout the Grants Mining District should be conducted in collaboration with all governmental partners. 9. b. The health assessment should identify all threats to human health from existing and potential new uranium mines 10. Regions 6 and 9 communicate and work collaboratively on uranium cleanup work with the Grants Mining District and Navajo Nation. Laura Watchempino,

MASE member 11. Uranium mining and milling waste piles should be lined with leak detection systems to permanently encapsulate and isolate hazardous materials from our communities and the environment. "Cap from grant mining district coming to pueblo. Acoma asked to be included in 5- year plan as well as part of any health studies, as the State and Federal Government has yet to study health impacts on Acoma pueblo. The 5-year plan lacks critical partners such as Bureau of Indian Affairs and Indian Health Services yet identifies only partner as NMDOH. FOLLOWUP REQUIRED

and cover" cleanup technology fails to address the risks of groundwater contamination from uranium waste pile seepage over time. Laura Watchempino, MASE member

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**From:** Meyer, John

**Sent:** Thursday, April 27, 2017 7:23 AM

**To:** Sanchez, Carlos <[sanchez.carlos@epa.gov](mailto:sanchez.carlos@epa.gov)>; Atkins, Blake <[Atkins.Blake@epa.gov](mailto:Atkins.Blake@epa.gov)>

**Subject:** FW: OEJTIA EJ Collaborative Action Plans - Quarterly Update Request

Please review and update the plans for your states as requested by the due date of May 9<sup>th</sup>.

John C Meyer  
Remedial Branch Chief  
Superfund Division  
214.665.6742



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**From:** Villarreal, Chris

**Sent:** Wednesday, April 26, 2017 4:03 PM

**To:** Banipal, Ben <[banipal.ben@epa.gov](mailto:banipal.ben@epa.gov)>; Meyer, John <[Meyer.John@epa.gov](mailto:Meyer.John@epa.gov)>; Talton, Anthony <[Talton.Anthony@epa.gov](mailto:Talton.Anthony@epa.gov)>; Crossland, Ronnie <[Crossland.Ronnie@epa.gov](mailto:Crossland.Ronnie@epa.gov)>

**Cc:** Phillips, Pam <[phillips.pam@epa.gov](mailto:phillips.pam@epa.gov)>

**Subject:** OEJTIA EJ Collaborative Action Plans - Quarterly Update Request

To assist in preparing responses to OEJTIA's requests (emails attached) for updates to the EJ Collaborative Action Plans for Arkansas, Louisiana, New Mexico, Oklahoma, and Texas, attached are summaries of Superfund WARs for each state from Jan. 1 thru April 22, 2017. The requested due date for comments on the EJ Collaborative Action Plans is May 16, 2017. Please provided redline/strikeout revisions to the various state action plans by May 9. I will consolidate your responses for Carl and Pam's review.

Thanks

Chris Villarreal

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